ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a \underline{A} control device for preventively actuating a means for protecting vehicle safety device, occupants and/or road users in a motor vehicle. This control device comprises a decision stage which issues a triggering decision the for the means for protecting vehicle safety device occupants if [[a]] travel behavior of the vehicle which is critical for safety is determined using detected, based on dynamic translational movement parameters. Furthermore, the control device comprises In addition, a plausibility checking stage for checking the plausibility of checks the triggering decision,-This plausibility checking stage evaluates it the triggering decision as implausible (and prevents triggering of the means for protecting vehicle savety device) occupants and/or road users from being actuated if an evaluation of the time profile of parameters which are sensed in the vehicle, <u>such</u> for example steering angle, activation of pedals, yaw rate or lateral acceleration, reveals that the travel behavior which is critical for safety corresponds, within predefinable limits, to a desired travel behavior. A travel behavior which is brought about in a deliberate and controlled fashion is considered to be a desired travel behavior.